



Department of Justice

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WASHINGTON STATE MAN INDICTED ON CHARGE HE FAILED TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that a federal grand jury has returned a one-count indictment charging DANIEL LAWRENCE LUERA, 47, formerly of Yakima, Wash., of failing to register in Sacramento as a sex offender.

This case is the product of a joint investigation by the Sacramento office of the United States Marshal Service and Washington state law enforcement.

The investigation in this case was undertaken as part of Project Safe Childhood (PSC). PSC is a United States Department of Justice initiative established to increase federal prosecutions of violent sexual predators of children and to reduce the number of Internet crimes against children including child pornography trafficking. As a part of PSC, the United States Attorney's Office has teamed with state and local agencies and organizations to increase law enforcement presence on the Internet, and to educate the public about safe Internet use, thereby reducing the risk that children might fall prey to online sexual predators. For additional information on the PSC initiative, please go to www.projectsafechildhood.gov or call the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California and ask to speak with the PSC coordinator.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Laurel D. White, who is prosecuting the case, the indictment alleges that last month, LUERA, having traveled in interstate commerce, did knowingly fail to register as a sex offender in Sacramento as he is required to do under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act. Under the Act, a person who is required to register as a sex offender, must do so within 72 hours of each change of name, residence, employment, or student status.

The maximum statutory penalty for failing to register as a sex offender is 10 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, a \$100 statutory assessment, and a possible life-term of supervised release. The actual sentence, however, will be dictated by the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of factors, and will be imposed at the discretion of the court.

The charges are only allegations, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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